Attestation of documents pertaining to the property of Win Chadha by the Indian Consulate General in New York

*409. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be peased to state:

(a) whether Government are in search of Bofors' Indian Agent, Win Chadha for his involvement in the Bofors payments since he fled with his family from India in early May last;

(b) whether it is a fact that when he approached the Indian Consulate General in New York for attestation of certain documents for disposing of his property in India, it was readily done;

(c) whether the Indian Embassy consulted the Indian Government in this regard or whether Government failed to inform the Embassy in time that Chadha was a wanted man; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Shri Win Chadha *alias* W.N. Chadha *alias* Washesher Nath Chadha is required by the Enforcement Directorate for interrogation in connection with investigations in a case of FERA violations .

(b) Shri Washesher Nath Chadha aproached the Indian Consulate General in New York to get a General Power of Attorney attested. The attestation was done as a matter of normal and routine consular service.

(c) and (d) For such consular services, prior approval of the Government is not necessary.

International Price of Wheat

*410. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1806 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 11th August, 1987 and state:

(a) what is the international price of wheat and what is the bottom level of price, if any, fixed by Government for the purpose of exports;

(b) what ceiling on the quantity of wheat for export has been fixed for 1987-88;

(c) what was the rate at which wheat was exported to Nepal and DPR Korea and what was the actual realisation by Government per tonne of wheat exported after deducting the cost of servicing the orders;

(d) what was the rate at which the export contract for wheat with M/s. Korea Cereal Export and Import Corporation was signed and whether it is going to be a barter deal or Government will receive hard currency by its export;

(e) if it is going to be a barter deal, what are the details thereof;

(f) what is the name of the party which got the commission for servicing the order; how much commission was paid and what were the services rendered by it; and

(g) what are the norms for appointing an agent for servicing the order?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) to (g) The international price of wheat fluctuates from time to time and varies also according to the quality of wheat, the delivery time, quantities involved, the fact whether contracts are on FOB or C&F basis, loading rates at ports and other relevant commercial factors. The price for

American HRW No. 2 wheat quoted in Kansas City Board Exchange on 21-8-1987 was US$ 110.6 per tonnes FOB US Gulf including premium for immediate delivery whereas the price for Argentinan wheat quoted was US$ 85 FOB for certain specified delivery months. The actual transaction prices are, however, often at variance with the prices quoted in exchange. No bottom level price for the purpose of exports of wheat has been fixed by the Government. Exports of wheat have been allowed by the Government within a limited ceiling during 1987-88. Wheat has been exported to Nepal and DPRK during 1987-88 by STC at internationally competitive prices, the actual realisations being as per the contract prices which are on FOB basis.

2. A contract has been signed by MMTC with M/s Korea Cereals Export and Import Corporation for export of 1 lakh tonnes of wheat for shipment during 1987-88, against payment in free foreign exchange. The price has been negotiated taking into account the prevailing international prices and other factors including cost of servicing the order. A commission which is within the RBI guidelines is to be paid to M/s. Texuna International Ltd., Hong Kong for securing the business at attractive price and for coordinating the smooth implementation of the contract. The commission will be payable on realisation of export proceeds from DPRK buyers for each shipment. While mode of remittance to foreign agents, through whom orders are secured and service is laid down by the Reserve Bank of India, there is no statute or rule laying down the norms to be followed for appointment of agents in the case of exports. Agents are appointed based on the requirements of the business.

P.M.'s Foreign Tours

*411. SHRI F.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the countries visited by the Prime Minister during th last six months;

(b) what was the purpose of the visits;

(c) what was the nature of talks held witn the heads of each country and what is the outcome thereof; and

(d) what is the expenditure incurred on each visit and what was the number of persons who accompanied him?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) (i) Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

(ii) Sri Lanka.

(b) (i) To inaugurate the Festival of India in the USSR.

(ii) To sign an Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement to establish peace and normalcy in Sri Lanka.

(c) (i) Prime Minister had two rounds of tetee-tate with General Secretary of CPSU Mr. Mikhail Sergeyvich Gorbachev and a round of talks with Soviet Prime Minister Nokolai A. Ryzhkov. These talks covered exchange of views on bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest and concern and revealed close proximity or identity of perceptions of the two sides. Measures were also identified for strengthening of bilateral relations. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi and General Secretary of CPSU Mr. M. S. Gorbachev signed Integrated Long-Term Programme of Cooperation in Science & Technology.

(ii) Prime Minister had a round of bilateral talks on the 29th July, 1987, with President J.R. Jayewardene before the signing of the Indo-Sri Lanka agreement on the same day.

(d) The expenditure incurred during these visits is being worked out.